

Friends of Dallas-Barnhartvale Nature Park

A group dedicated to the continued well-being of a valued community resource.

SEPTEMBER 2013

ISSUE THREE

Wetlands Restoration Project

Dallas-Barnhartvale Nature Park Wetlands Restoration Committee



Sponsoring Organization:
Barnhartvale Horse & Hiker
Trail Preservation Society

Healthy wetlands are an essential component of a complete ecosystem. Urban wetlands are increasingly rare and are continually being eradicated to make room for industrial development and housing.

The wetlands in this Park have been damaged by human intervention for irrigation and by incursion of non-native plant species.

The Dallas-Barnhartvale Nature Park Wetlands Restoration Committee is a non-profit local group dedicated to the restoration of these damaged Park wet areas to natural, functioning small wetlands.

For further information, please contact:
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Supporting Organizations:



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Wetlands Committee gets Green Light!

It's a go!

The Wetlands Restoration Committee has completed all requirements of the Ministry of Environment Water Stewardship Branch.

Construction on three of the four wetland sites will begin September 23rd, continuing through the week. In Phase One of this project, an excavator will remove all noxious plants, including a large incursion of invasive Manitoba Maple, and excavate three shallow basins for groundwater wetlands. Some fill may need to be imported to the sites for water-retaining berms.

The disturbed areas will then be hydro-seeded with a native grass mix in an effort to combat invasive weeds such as thistles, burdock, hound's tongue and nightshade.

Indigenous trees and shrub patches will be preserved and protected, and some planting of wetland plants will occur this Fall.

In Phase Two, scheduled to start next Summer, more wetland plants and some trees will be planted. Noxious weed management with manual weed pulls will be a continued necessity. (The Committee will be looking for help with that!)

Phase two may also include restoration of a fourth site nearby. This site was shifted from Phase One of the project due to the need for a habitat tree and dangerous tree assessment, which will take more time to complete.

The Wetlands Restoration Committee is sponsored by the Barnhartvale Horse & Hiker Trail Preservation Society.

The Society has had extensive experience in wetland restoration, having participated in projects at Tree Flats and Black Diamonds.

The Wetlands Restoration Committee has been planning and fund-raising for the past several years and these activities will continue until the project plan is completed.

Their supporting organizations include the City of Kamloops Parks and Recreation Department, the **Friends of Dallas-Barnhartvale Nature Park**, the Dallas Community Association, Barnhartvale Community Association, and the BC Wildlife Federation Wetland Educational Program (WEP).

Phase Three of the project includes an educational wetland site.

One of the wetlands will have an observation deck and signage indicating the role of healthy wetlands in a balanced ecosystem.

This is an exciting project! When completed, the restored wetlands will become a valued Park asset and point of interest to Park users.

Park users are asked to be safe during the construction week and observe all detours and caution signs.



NEXT ISSUE

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Stay tuned. More
Park news as it
happens.



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